



citizens' bulletin

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Indirect Source Regs. Modified

The controversial "indirect source" air pollution regulations have been extensively amended to release most major developments from the regulations' permit requirements. Only airports and highways now require indirect source permits. Previously, shopping centers, sports complexes and other major projects which attracted large numbers of motor vehicles required permits.

The Department supported the changes which were approved by the Attorney General and the Legislative Regulations Review Committee.

In explaining the Department's position on the amendments, Commissioner Stanley J. Pac said, "Two and one-half years of experience with the program have demonstrated convincingly that its costs far outweigh any measurable benefits. Data collection and application preparation were lengthy and demanding procedures. The review and analysis of data and the processing of applications were extremely costly to the State agencies involved, primarily DEP and the Department of Transportation. Despite the tremendous efforts of an exceptionally dedicated staff, many projects were delayed substantially, in some cases more than two years, before they ultimately received a permit.

"The worst part is that we have no way to accurately determine the air pollution benefits which might have offset these substantial costs. At the moment the technology simply does not exist to determine the hydrocarbon emissions specifically attributable to a single indirect source like a shopping center.

"At some time in the future when we develop this measuring capability and when a comprehensive transportation control plan has been implemented, then perhaps a modified indirect source program should be reinstated.

"I think it is now clear to everyone that the individual developer should not bear the full burden of solving Connecticut's automotive pollution problem. Only the auto manufacturers and state and federal government will be able to solve this problem by addressing its true source -- the private automobile and our transportation system.

"It is perhaps worth noting that only one permit was ever denied.. And even that one, with minor modifications, might have been ultimately approved had the program not been repealed. While the number of denials is not a valid measure of the program's effectiveness, it certainly indicates that the program made no major impact on automobile-dependent development.

"The decision on these regulations has been inaccurately described as a decision for jobs and against the environment. If the program had been effective and equitable, it would still be in effect."

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency suspended its own indirect source program in 1974. At the present time only 10 cities, states and territories have programs of their own.

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Reader's Forum

To the Editor:

The June 1977 issue of the DEP Citizens' Bulletin contains an article by T.R. Strumolo, an article so grossly misinformed and so propagandized that it falls flat on its face in the light of reality.

The automobile owned by the American does not "beckon seductively" but "stands ready to serve faithfully" its owner--to drive to work, to recreation, to serve in winter's cold and summer's heat and emergencies of all types.

The automobile and the freedom of mobility it offers is a major factor that gives the American the right to live where he chooses; to work where he chooses; and above all, the freedom of choice offered by that mobility.

Mr. Strumolo wrongly compares New England as being at war with Texas over fuel production. His own Department of Planning and Energy testified against off-shore New England oil drilling to bring from the depths the fuel for New Englanders. But this (as a good propagandist), he chooses to ignore and prefers to start a war with Texas.

His attitude that the average automobile owner has as much compassion for travel alternatives as a mugger has for his victim is an excellent piece of overreaction propaganda. He likens the American automobile owner to being a "big, bad bastard."

Editor's Note: Mr. Huebner's letter implies that Mr. Strumolo referred to the automobile owner as a "big, bad bastard." As a point of clarification, those words did not appear in Mr. Strumolo's article.

New DEP Publication

DEP's Planning and Coordination Unit has recently published "Connecticut's Marine Heritage Landscape," a 66-page report designed to stimulate and promote a greater recognition of the scenic, natural, and cultural attributes of Connecticut's marine region.

The report details those landscape features found in the state's southeastern region which reflect a historical marine character.

The report also discusses the possibility of the creation of a Marine Heritage Zone and potential management mechanisms for that zone.

For a free copy of "Connecticut's Marine Heritage Landscape" call or write:

DEP, Planning & Coordination
State Office Building, Rm. 118
Hartford, Ct. 06115
203/566-3740

He states (wrongly) that building more highways encourage gasoline wants, etc.... The reverse is true--better highways with free-flowing traffic saves fuel, reduces hydrocarbon emissions, etc.

The June 1977 article is typical of the Big Brother approach to governing the public, i.e. tell 'em where to live, where to work, when to sleep, when to eat, and what their life style should be.

Finally, Mr. Strumolo's article concludes the Big Brother approach by saying that owning an automobile is "not a story of freedom..." but "it is one of belonging lock, stock and barrel to a machine," with the cars "owning us, driving us around, etc., for small pleasures..."

We conclude by saying that as Americans we decide what to own, what to drive, where to work, where to live and where we shall partake of the so-called small pleasures offered by the automobile.

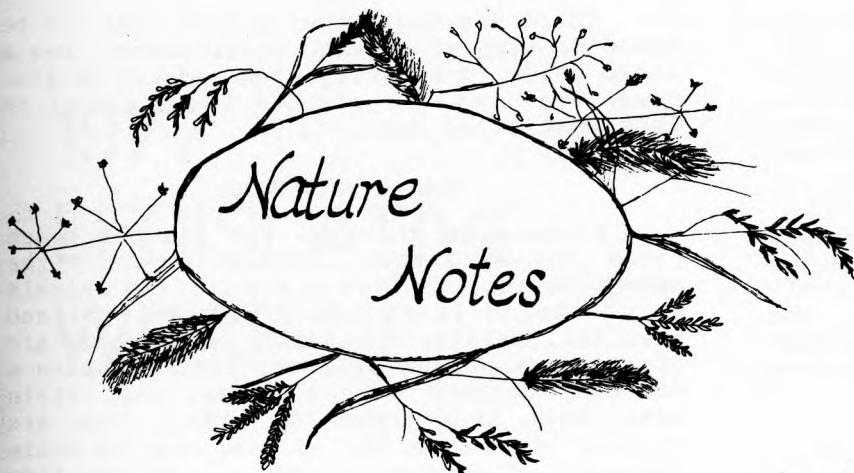
The Department of Planning and Energy Policy may want to Big Brother us all, but we stand by the Declaration of Independence from such thinking and its Big Brother propaganda.

*William J. Huebner
Director of Communications
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Industries Association
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DEP CITIZENS' BULLETIN

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written and illustrated
by
Penni Sharp

Your July/August Environment

Summer is: Long, hot days...sanderlings feeding at sandy beaches...wild blueberries ripening...full-leaved trees offering shade...Black-eyed susans brightening meadows...farmers' fields tall with corn...Common terns fishing in coastal waters...Queen Ann's lace and Chicory blooming along roadsides...Swallowtail butterflies visiting flowers.

During the hot summer weather, many of the state's residents seek relief by visiting the sandy beaches that dot the Connecticut coastline. If you are counted among them, make your next trip to the beach a learning experience as well as a pleasure trip by taking special note of your surroundings.

You might begin by asking yourself a few questions. How did the beach get here? Where does the sand come from? What plants and animals can survive in this seemingly barren environment?

Approximately 15,000 years ago, the Connecticut coast lay under a thick sheet of ice known as the Wisconsin glacier. It was the last of four such ice sheets to have covered the land northward from New York City, including Long Island and Staten Island. On the seaward side it reached the south shores of Long Island and Block Island. Prior to the retreat of the glacier, the Connecticut coast extended more than 100 miles farther to the southeast than it does today.

The melting ice and a rising sea level drowned much of the existing coastline, leaving the high points protruding as offshore islands in the Sound. The Sound itself was then a fresh water lake, bound by Long Island, Fisher's Island and lands between them. As the sea level rose, seawater entered through the openings at the eastern end, creating Long Island Sound as we know it today.

In its movements, the glacier scoured the land surface, exposing the underlying rock and depositing piles of rocky debris. As a result of this glacial action, rocky headlands and boulder-strewn beaches were left behind in many places along Connecticut's coastline.

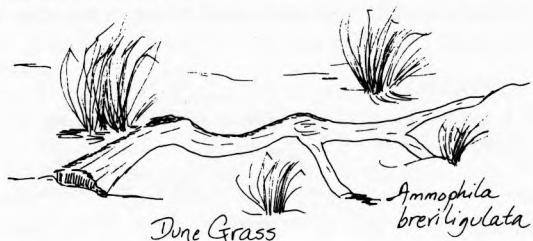
The sand on beaches consists of tiny particles of minerals which have been worn from rocks and stones for centuries by the action of wind and waves. This wearing away is known as erosion, and it is a combination of erosion and the deposition of eroded material that supplies beaches with sand. If the material being eroded is more or less in balance with the material that is deposited, the beach will remain in a somewhat stable condition over a period of time.

The grains of sand themselves are mostly made up of light colored quartz with an assortment of other minerals. It is interesting to draw a magnet over a handful of sand. Both magnetite and ilmenite, if present, will adhere to the magnet.

Plants of the Beach

Plants are important in maintaining the ecosystem of the saltwater beach. Their roots stabilize the sand and keep it from blowing away. The leaves and branches provide shade and nesting and feeding sites for animals. The seeds and fruits offer an excellent food source for many species, including man.

There are quite a number of plants that can be found growing either directly in the sand or at the upland edge of the beach. This is a rigorous environment for plants and most have evolved special adaptations that enable them to survive the conditions, some of which are extreme temperatures, dryness, and occasional flooding.



The predominant plant of the beach environment is dune grass or beach grass (Ammodophila breviligulata). It is pale green in color and has stiff, narrow pointed leaves. During hot, dry weather, the leaves themselves will curl inward, resembling a straw; this adaptation reduces water loss.

Growing amongst patches of dune grass, the beach pea (Lathyrus japonicus) can be found. This plant has roundish green leaflets with tendrils at the outer stems. The flowers range from pinkish white to purple and later in the summer form pods filled with tiny peas that are edible.

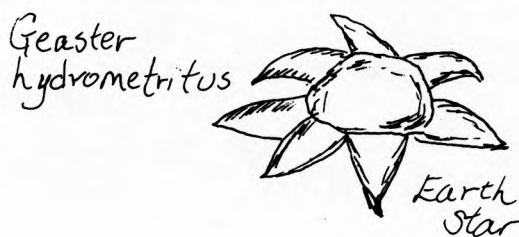


Perhaps the loveliest plant to be found at the upland edge of beaches is the salt spray rose or wrinkled rose (Rosa rugosa). This shrub is recognized by its leathery, wrinkled leaves and handsome flowers of white or, more commonly, pink. When the plant has finished flowering, rose "hips" dot the bushes, resembling cherry tomatoes. The hips are extremely high in vitamin C and can be used to make jams or jellies or tea.

Another plant to look for is the sea rocket (Cakile edentula). A member of the mustard family, this plant grows on the beach itself. It is characterized by its succulent stems and four-petalled, lavender flowers. Like many of the other beach plants, it is edible. But watch out! The fleshy pod (the edible portion of the plant) can be hot to the taste buds!

During August, a visitor to the beach may notice a plant that resembles the goldenrods of late summer fields. This is seaside goldenrod (Solidago sempervirens). Its fleshy leaves, almost rubbery to the touch, are a distinctive feature and are important to the plant for water storage.

A very interesting non-green plant to look for in sandy areas is the "earth star" (Geaster hydrometritus), a type of mushroom, with a top like a puffball. Radiating out from around the center part are the pointed segments. During wet weather, the segments are stretched out and actually cling to the ground, but during dry spells, the "rays" curl up and protect the center.



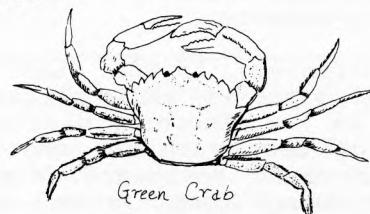
There are many other plants that can be found growing at a beach environment. Use a field guide to identify them and try to discover how they are adapted for survival in this particular habitat.

Animals at the Beach

While some animals, for example beach fleas and some worm larvae, exist on the sandy shores, the best place to find animals at the beach is to locate a tide pool and then sit, quietly observing. Tide pools are small areas walled by rocks that maintain a constant contact with the sea, and retain water even at extreme low tide. They are usually present at the ends of beaches where the sand gives over to rock. No two tide pools are the same and the animal life can be quite varied due to the frequent inundations of sea water. In the tide pool itself, one is almost certain to find periwinkles, spiral shaped snail-like mollusks about an inch in size.

Often inhabiting abandoned periwinkle shells are the hermit crabs. Their soft, curved abdomens and hook-like tails are usually hidden in the shells that they occupy. As individual hermit crabs grow, they "change houses" by finding a larger shell.

There are several species of swimming crabs that one might see when exploring a tide pool. The green crab is probably the most common species along the Connecticut shore and can be recognized by its green color and the five tooth-like projections on each side of the front of the carapace (shell). Another is the lady crab which has a white carapace finely speckled with red marks. This crab can bury itself in the sand where it becomes camouflaged, avoiding its enemies and awaiting its unwitting prey. Tide pools also may contain small fish, starfish, and sea anenomes hidden amongst the seaweeds.



Shell collecting is an interesting hobby, and the shells of many North Atlantic mollusks can be found along the beaches. Look for moon snails and whelks, mussels and scallops. Start a collection this summer and see how many different species you can find. If you are searching the beach for shells, you may discover some other interesting objects -- a sponge, a skate egg case (Sometimes called "mermaid's purse") or the egg case of whelk, a string of odd shaped capsules, each one of which contains miniature whelks.

The sea and the beaches over which it flows hold many treasures. Enrich your summer by discovering some of them!

1977 LEGISLATIVE WRAP-UP

One of the most important pieces of environmental legislation this Session was substitute House Bill 7934, An Act Concerning the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA). CEPA requires the preparation of environmental impact evaluations by state agencies for state-funded projects which may have significant environmental impacts.

In the four years since the Legislature first passed CEPA, only three environmental impact evaluations have been prepared. Commissioners and staff of many state agencies found the legislative mandate difficult to follow because the statutory language was broad and general.

The purpose of this year's amendments was to better define when an environmental impact evaluation should be prepared and to provide DEP with the authority to promulgate regulations to implement the act. The regulations called for would specifically spell out how an impact evaluation should be prepared and reviewed. The CEPA amendments also, for the first time, require energy impacts of state projects to be considered in environmental impact evaluations.

Another important area of legislation this year was the protection of watershed lands. Three bills passed this Session that will assist in the preservation of watershed lands. HB 7958 requires the Department of Planning and Energy Policy to submit to the 1978 General Assembly a report on the short and long term economic impact on water companies from the sale of their lands. Another bill prohibits the sale or lease of certain water company lands for two more years and makes the change in the status of those lands subject to restrictions and review procedures by the Commissioner of Health. A third bill requires DEP to study various environmental aspects of water supply management. These bills will prevent the immediate sale of a much wider category of water company lands than previously classified. All three bills implement the recommendations of the Connecticut Council on Water Company Lands, established by the General Assembly in 1975.



Unfortunately, not all environmental legislation fared so well. Several major environmental proposals were defeated during the 1977 Session. Two DEP proposals to clean up the air in Connecticut, for example, received no action by the General Assembly.

Senate Bill 1195, the controversial automobile inspection and maintenance bill of past years, was killed by the Transportation Committee, and several attempts to resurrect it failed. Even a last minute recommendation by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Douglas Costle for legislators to consider it was unsuccessful.

Senate Bill 1369, An Act Concerning the Powers of the Commissioner of DEP, would have prevented the use of state funds for the implementation of transportation plans which the Commissioner of DEP determined were inconsistent with air quality criteria. After a lengthy debate by committee members, this proposal passed the Committee on Environment with a 9-7 vote. However, it died on the Senate Calendar when the upper chamber refused to take action on it.

The controversial bill to ban throw-away beverage containers was proposed again this session, but opponents successfully enmeshed it in a web of parliamentary maneuvers, and it was once again defeated. Despite the fact that the House and Senate each passed its own version of the Bottle Bill, neither one was able to get past the parliamentary hurdles placed in their respective paths, and both ended in legislative limbo.

With the Bottle Bill dead for the Session, an anti-litter bill sponsored by Bottle Bill opponents was passed in the House and transmitted to the Senate. This bill would have imposed a tax on state manufacturers, retailers and wholesalers who

(Cont. on next page.)

produce or sell products contributing to litter. The money collected would be used to pay for a state anti-litter program. The anti-litter bill died on the Senate Calendar on adjournment day, but not until after proponents tried and failed to suspend the rules for a vote and to attach the Litter Control Bill to another bill.

It seems likely that both bills will be resubmitted next Session.

For the third consecutive year, the General Assembly failed to pass the Agricultural Lands bill. Senate Bill 1327 would have enabled the state to set up a fund to purchase development rights from farmers for the preservation of agricultural lands. This voluntary program would have designated which lands would be eligible for purchase. The Environment Committee, indicating its concern for our diminishing farm-

land, passed the bill out of Committee by a 17-2 vote, and sent it to the Finance Committee with a funding mechanism of a 1% tax on real estate sales with a \$30,000 exemption.

The Finance Committee members apparently felt the bill proposed a good and necessary program. However, most were opposed to "tied taxes" and would have preferred bonding as a funding mechanism or the use of general fund monies. The bill was boxed by the Finance Committee on April 4. An interim study is scheduled this summer and fall on the question of land preservation in Connecticut.

On balance, the 1977 Session was far from successful from an environmental standpoint, but the passage of key bills like the CEPA amendments and the water company lands legislation indicates that progress can still be made on the environmental front in the General Assembly.

Workshop on Local Land Use Held

A pilot workshop on local control of land use was offered during May, June and July to municipal land use decision makers of 16 towns located east of the Connecticut River and west of the Willimantic River. The program was presented by DEP and the Connecticut Cooperative Extension Service along with the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions through an EPA grant.

The workshops involved a close examination of relationships between the legislation which grants governing power to municipalities and the physical resources of the community. The program offered participants two options -- Program A, which consisted of four evening sessions, or Program B, the four evening sessions and three all day Saturday field trips. Those who registered for the entire in-depth program received three Continuing Education Units from the University of Connecticut Continuing Education Extension Division and a Certificate of Completion. These workshops will be run statewide starting in the fall, with emphasis on regional resources and concerns.

The four evening sessions addressed the following topics: Workshop I -- Natural Resources Systems and Their Relationships to Natural and Political Boundaries; Workshop II -- The Legalities of Land Use Decision Making in Connecticut; Workshop III -- Methodologies for Evaluating Land Use Proposals; and Workshop IV -- Case Example Discussions of Current Land Use Problems Facing the Towns Present at the Workshops.

Each workshop session took place in two locations, Vernon and Hartford, on Tuesdays and Wednesdays for four consecutive weeks. With this arrangement, participants could attend whichever location or evening was most convenient.

The field trips dealt in depth with land use natural resource concerns. The first field trip covered soils, geology and hydrology with respect to on-site sewage disposal, sedimentation and erosion control, and water quality. Speakers at this section represented the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the Department of Health, the U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service, and the Tolland and Hartford County Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

Field trip II was a bus tour along the Willimantic River to observe and understand a river basin system and its relationship to various human activities, such as sewage treatment, flood management methods, ground water development, sanitary landfills, air pollution, and water pollution. Speaker represented DEP, the University of Connecticut, and the U.S. Geological Survey.

The final field trip was held in the town of Columbia to do an on-site evaluation of hypothetical residential and industrial development proposals. Participants walked the site and were shown what they could look for when they made on-site reviews in their towns. The process of environmental impact assessment was detailed.

Throughout the workshops, the interrelationships among federal, state, and local authorities over the various resources was stressed. Participants were shown how their own local responsibilities fit into a larger framework.

Speakers for the workshops came from variety of disciplines and agencies, including DEP, USGS, University of Connecticut, USDA Soil Conservation Service, and Department of Health. Speakers for the workshops were Professor Terry Tondro, University of Connecticut Law School, at the Tuesday evening session and Attorney Thomas P. Byrne at the Wednesday evening session.

Sleeping Giant Trail Dedication



Paul Pritchard (left), Deputy Director of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation (BOR), and Maurice ("Red") Arnold (right), Director of the Northeast Region of BOR, hold trail dedication certificate as Commissioner Stanley J. Pac (far right) looks on.

The 25 mile trail network at Sleeping Giant State Park in Hamden was dedicated as a National Recreation Trail in ceremonies held at the park on July 12.

The National Recreation Trails System was authorized by Congress in 1968. Sleep-

ing Giant Trails is the 106th addition to the national system and the first complete trail to be designated in Connecticut. The Appalachian Trail, which passes through Connecticut, and the Pacific Crest Trail were the initial components in the nationwide trails program.

The trail network at Sleeping Giant includes a self-guiding nature trail, offers outstanding views of the surrounding hills and Long Island Sound, and connects with the Quinnipiac Trail, a portion of the statewide system of Blue Blazed Trails.

Paul Pritchard, Deputy Director of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, U.S. Department of the Interior, presented the National Recreation Trail Certificate to Commissioner Stanley J. Pac, who accepted the certificate for the State of Connecticut on behalf of Governor Ella Grasso. The Governor had planned to attend the dedication but her helicopter was grounded by weather. Also taking part in the ceremonies was Russell Williams, Vice President of the Sleeping Giant Park Association, the citizen group which originally preserved the Sleeping Giant geological formation and continues to assist the state with park improvements.

Second Seacoast Celebration--Sept. 17

by Susan Leinoff, Audubon Intern

Gateway Landing at Long Wharf, on New Haven's Harbor, will be the site for Connecticut's Second Seacoast Celebration on Saturday, September 17th.

To encourage greater understanding appreciation and participation in coastal events, Governor Ella Grasso proclaimed June 11 and September 17 as "Coastal Awareness Days" in Connecticut. The first Seacoast Celebration was held in Mystic on June 11th, and included field trips, exhibits, demonstrations, boat trips -- all with a coastal theme. New Haven's activities promise to be as much fun, as instructional and as varied.

CELEBRATION

The SEACOAST AWARENESS Day

Connecticut's COASTAL

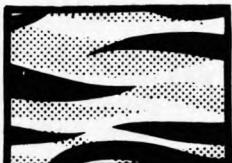
In the line-up of happenings, something for everyone is being planned. There will be harbor tours, bicycle excursions, and canoe trips. Under one big tent, an array of exhibitors will set up coastal displays. Under another big top, Schooner, Inc. plans to host their "Third Annual Oyster Roast." In addition, music, theater and films will be presented.

The September 17th festivities will focus on two themes: preservation of natural resources, as well as urban redevelopment of coastal areas. In conjunction with this latter theme, tours of industrial facilities, bordering along New Haven's waterfront, will be given.

According to Donna Parson, Seacoast Celebration Coordinator, "These celebrations are designed to attract large numbers of Connecticut people to the coast in order to make them aware of the marvels of our shoreline, the problems that confront it, and the opportunities for the future."

Sponsors of this event include the City of New Haven, the Connecticut Coastal Area Management Program, Connecticut Audubon Society, Schooner, Inc., Union Trust, Channel 8, the Environmental Education Center, the Sierra Club and the League of Women Voters. Sizeable contributions have also been made by local industry.

Watch your local newspapers for further announcements of scheduled events.



university of connecticut INSTITUTE OF WATER RESOURCES

Research at UConn

A cooperative study on the state of health of fish in three areas of the upper Shetucket River Watershed was completed recently at the University of Connecticut. The study was a joint effort by faculty and graduate students in the Department of Natural Resources Conservation, and the Department of Pathobiology, both in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, as well as the Biological Sciences Group, a division of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Because there has not been a statistically valid study of the state of fish health (as related to water quality) in Connecticut, the group undertook the project which was funded by the Institute of Water Resources. Its purpose was to obtain some basic information which could be used to compare with results in future studies. Without such "starting" information, it is difficult to know whether our efforts to improve our water quality in Connecticut streams is as successful as we might wish. A study conducted some years from now, in these same areas and with the same species of fish, should give us an idea as to this rate of progress.

Since scattered information obtained on a few fish of many different species, and from various areas would not be helpful. The group selected three areas in one watershed, and two species of fish found in each.

For fish, they selected two which differed markedly in feeding habits. One of those selected was the white sucker, a scavenger, and the other was the largemouth bass, a predator. Specimens were obtained from three areas in the Upper Shetucket River Watershed: (1) Eagleville Lake, (2) Mansfield Hollow Reservoir, and (3) Scotland Impoundment.

The frequencies and types of diseases and parasites were documented. The research team found that in the areas studied, there were differences in the number of parasites and evidence of disease from one area to another, they were not severe enough to cause marked changes in the growth of the fish. Usually, Eagleville and Mansfield Hollow Dam fish had more parasites and tissue lesions than those from Scotland Impoundment.

Although differences from one area to the other were not significant, it is a point for consideration. If fish from all areas are equally stressed, then one would not expect to see differences. It is only when we look again in a survey some years from now, when hopefully our waters will be even cleaner, that the differences between now and then may be seen. Perhaps it will be in growth rate, fish getting bigger sooner. Perhaps it will be in the reduction of lesions and parasites (fish under stress will succumb to disease easier than non-stressed fish). Until more such studies are done in other Connecticut waterways, and similar tests done again several years from now, we will not know the answer.

New Book on Migratory Shore & Upland Game Birds Available

Migratory shore and upland game birds - those other than waterfowl - are given exhaustive treatment in a new book edited by Dr. Glen Sanderson and made available by the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies with the cooperation of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The outgrowth of a ten-year program of research coordinated by the Migratory Shore and Upland Game Bird Subcommittee of the International Association, the book brings together the latest information on habits, populations, distribution, etc. The book makes specific recommendations for the conservation of a group that includes such little-known species as the black rail at one extreme to the widely popular mourning dove at the other.

Individual chapters cover the sandhill crane, rails and gallinules, American coot, American woodcock, common snipe, bank-tailed pigeon, white-winged dove, mourning dove, and shore birds. A concluding chapter "The Resources and Their Values" summarizes the benefits from expanded management of this important group of migratory birds.

Copies of the book are being given an initial distribution to professional workers in the field and are available to the interested public at a cost of \$1.00 each to cover handling and postage charges. The book may be obtained from the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, 1412 16th Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036. Orders should be accompanied by a check or money order in the amount of \$1.00.



CAM NEWS

The Coastal Area Management Program has available for loan a copy of a new 16mm documentary film OFFSHORE ONSHORE which investigates the onshore impacts of offshore oil drilling. The film was recently shown on Connecticut Public Television.

Attempted as an honest and unbiased documentary, OFFSHORE ONSHORE addresses both sides of the issues raised by offshore oil and gas exploration and development.

All previous attempts have tended to slant the message, expressing the viewpoint of the organization or industry producing the film. "The need was recognized for a film to educate the general public on what Outer Continental Shelf development was all about," according to Arthur Rocque, Assistant Director of CAM. In late 1975, the Coastal Zone Task Force (representing New York and New England) initiated the proposal to get the show underway.

Funding eventually came from a variety of sources. All five New England coastal states put money into the purse. So did four federal governmental agencies, the MIT Sea Grant program and WGBH - Boston.

Public Television Producer Peter Cook, of WGBH, calls his 60 minute documentary "a handsome color film." It took approximately one year to make and spans two continents. The premise of the film is that New Englanders can best begin to cope with Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) development by learning from the experiences of others. With this in mind, the producer put together footage on oil activities from Louisiana and the Gulf Coast to Scotland and the Shetland Islands in the North Sea.

Ian Smith, architect of the bill to protect the interests of the Shetland Islands in the face of oil exploration and development, offers a threefold lesson: (1) to determine priorities; (2) to weigh the costs and benefits of development; and (3) to be strong in dealing with the oil industry.

He says, "I think it's important for planners to realize from the outset what is attractive in their area to the industry...how much they are willing to sacrifice....and that they must never threaten the industry with something that they don't intend to carry out."

Future oil and gas activity on Georges Bank off the New England coast seems inevitable. Already the federal government is in the process of leasing tracts to oil companies. Now must also be the time for the New England states to begin planning for OCS development. OFFSHORE ONSHORE makes this message perfectly clear.

Representing interests close to home is Massachusetts Congressman Gerry Studds. He says, "They (the oil companies) will go where they want to go and therefore it seems to me that our interests lie not in supinely spreading ourselves before them saying, 'Come, we desperately need you,' but in saying 'Of course you're going to come, but we are going to make it abundantly clear before you get here that you are coming on our terms and not solely on your own.'"

For almost every viewpoint on OCS development, OFFSHORE ONSHORE provides a representative speaker. Opinions range from those belonging to Morgantown, Louisiana's Mayor (where offshore drilling's been a reality for the past 30 years) to those of New England fishermen; from W.T. Slick, Vice President of Exxon, to environmentalists from Woods Hole. The coverage is extensive.

Yet the film tends to raise more questions than it could ever possibly answer -- What sorts of onshore facilities will be required? How many jobs will there be for local people? How many workers will come in from the outside? What will happen to local economies and social structures? This list of questions proves endless, representing just a sample of the issues that must be addressed by local, state and/or federal agencies before OCS development occurs.

OFFSHORE ONSHORE's value to New England is that it fills the information gap by providing a neutral portrayal of offshore oil developments. In addition, by showing likely human impacts onshore, the film tries to alleviate people's apprehensions and fears founded on previous misconceptions, distorted images and biased reports. It makes worthwhile viewing.

For further information about this film, please call the CAM office at 566-7404.

Areawide Waste Treatment Management Planning Board

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347-3700

By Mark Possidente, 208 Administrator

Erosion and Sedimentation--Is it a Problem?

Erosion is a natural phenomenon which most people have experienced with varying degrees of concern from the first traumatic experience of having a sand castle destroyed by the incoming tide to the costly experience of having a backyard partly washed away by a heavy rainstorm. However, the deposition of the eroded material--called sedimentation--and the resultant impact on water quality is a phenomenon with which most of us are not readily familiar.

As a major subject of concern of the Connecticut 208 Program, the phenomenon of erosion and sedimentation will be addressed through studies designed to:

- (1) inventory all existing and potential sediment sources in the state;
- (2) assess the impact of eroded sediment on water quality; and
- (3) institute controls necessary to reduce or eliminate sediment related water quality problems.

The inventory phase will be conducted in part by the eight Soil and Water Conservation Districts of the State in which all existing sediment sources--such as cropland, streambanks, roadbanks, construction sites, excavation sites and other disturbed areas--will be located and mapped on a town by town basis. In addition, the amount of soil eroded from each site will be calculated and preliminary recommendations made for controls at sites where unacceptable levels of erosion are observed.

To augment the Conservation District inventory, each Regional Planning Agency in the State will be mapping areas in its region which indicate a high potential for erosion, if disturbed. That is, areas of steep slope and soils known to be erosive will be identified. This information together with the data gathered on existing sediment sources will provide a basis to assess the existing and potential impact of erosion and sedimentation on our States waters.

Interim reports with accompanying maps (scale 1:24000) summarizing the inventory phase studies will be available for distribution in May, 1978. The final reports will be completed by November, 1978.

The assessment and implementation phase will be conducted for only two areas of the State due to limited funding. In the Northeastern Regional Planning area the

impact of cropland related erosion on water quality will be assessed in detail. Similarly, the Midstate Regional Planning Agency will conduct a study in its area to assess the impact of other types of sediment sources on water quality.

If, in either the Northeast or Midstate study, violations of water quality standards are found to be related to erosion, necessary steps will be recommended to abate the problem. Since structural alternatives such as treatment works are not viable because of the diffuse nature of the pollutant source, some other means must be employed. The alternative is the utilization of good management practices on the land, or what is referred to as "Best Management Practices" (BMP), to control soil loss. As described in Federal Regulations, "Best Management Practices are the most practical and effective measure on combination of measures which when applied will prevent or reduce the generation of pollution to a level compatible with water quality goals." BMP's for cropland for example, are contour plowing and winter cover crops; and for construction sites, sedimentation basins or vegetative buffer zones.

Under these two studies, where necessary, the range of all Best Management Practices will be reviewed and the most cost effective techniques will be recommended and implemented. On the other hand where no water problems are encountered, no additional controls will be necessary.

Reports with accompanying maps (scale 1:24000) summarizing the results of these two studies will be available in May and November, 1978. The earlier reports will address the "impact on water quality" and the later reports - "the necessary control measures." While the assessment and implementation phase will be conducted for only two regions, the knowledge and experience gained should have application to much of the remainder of the State.

If you would like to know more about the erosion and sedimentation studies of the Connecticut 208 Program please contact the 208 Central Office, telephone 347-3700.

Editors Note: The Connecticut 208 Program is a federally funded planning program concerned with the evaluation of non-point sources of pollution to our State waters. The Erosion and Sedimentation Studies discussed above are just one area of the program. Advisory committees are now being created throughout the State on all areas of the 208 Program. Please contact the nearest Regional Planning Agency, Conservation District or the 208 Central Office for more information.

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January 1975 - June 1977

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June 7

Peter Banca, et al.

Permit, with conditions, to conduct a regulated activity within the bounds of the wetlands which consists of the dredging of approximately 180 cubic yards of silt from an existing ditch in the Town of Branford.

June 14

Union Oil Co. of California

Permit, with conditions, to discharge a variable flow of stormwater to the Judd Brook Watershed.

June 14

Paper Delivery Inc.

Permit, with conditions, to discharge wastewaters from automobile washing operations to the Naugatuck River Watershed.

June 14

Lomac Inc.

Permit, with conditions, to discharge vehicle washwater in the Town of East Hartford to the Connecticut River Watershed.

June 14

Dattco Inc.

Permit, with conditions, to discharge bus washwater in the Town of New Britain to the Connecticut River Watershed.

June 14

Northern Capitol Region

Disposal Facility Inc.

Permit, with conditions, to operate and maintain a sanitary landfill in the Town of East Windsor.

June 14

Avon Convalescent Home

Permit, with conditions, to discharge 9000 gallons per day of treated domestic sewage to the Chidsey Brook Watershed.

June 16

Eyelet Specialty Co.

Permit, with conditions, to discharge treated metal finishings wastewaters to the Quinnipiac River Watershed.

June 16

Fairfield Investors Inc.

Permit, with conditions, to widen and deepen the Norwalk River, place fill to form a parking area and construct a multi-storyed office building and parking structure riverward of established stream encroachment lines in the City of Norwalk.

June 20

Dept. of Public Works

Town of West Hartford

Permit, to repair the sidewalk along the west side of Braeburn Road, to extend corrugated metal pipes and perform minor channel repairs immediately upstream of the Braeburn Road crossing riverward of established stream encroachment lines in the Town of West Hartford.

June 22

Mr. Fiske H. Ventres

Permit, with conditions, to construct a dam on Phelps Brook in the Town of Burlington.

June 23

Division of Environmental Quality

Dept. of Environmental Protection

Permit, with conditions, to construct a dam on Ridgefield Brook in the Town of Ridgefield.

June 24

John Errichetti Associates

Permit, with conditions, for construction of a dam on Mad River, a tributary of Naugatuck River, in the Town of Waterbury.

Permits Denied

Water Resources

June 6

Paul A. Fleming

A proposed regulated activity involving the filling and/or regrading of 5.2 acres of land of which 3.33 acres are designated as inland wetland in the Town of Preston.



Trailside Botanizing

by G. Winston Carter



Pam Carter

TROUT LILY
(*Erythronium americanum*)

This delicate little plant is a true lily even though it is often referred to by such common names as Dog Tooth Violet and Adder's Tongue. The latter name apparently originated because its long protruding flower stamens were thought to resemble an adder's tongue. It seems to thrive in moist woodlands near streams.

The Trout Lily is a low-growing plant with leaves which are often speckled, resembling in this way the trout from which it gets its name. When it is about to blossom, a three or four inch stem appears holding a drooping yellow bud mixed with violet between two leaves. The flower itself is yellow and the petals curl back as the flower opens. Later, it develops seeds that are held in three-sided, pale green pods.

Every flowering plant must produce a certain number of leaves before it has developed enough to flower, the number of leaves varying with each species. Trout Lilies with only one leaf are not old enough to blossom. It takes this plant seven years from the time the seed starts developing into a bulb until it blossoms. A kind of inner timing device predicts the exact time when it is old enough to produce two leaves.

As part of the forest floor, the Trout Lily has a particular role or niche in the forest community. It must make its appearance when conditions are favorable to flower and produce seeds. Therefore, spring flowers like the Trout Lily must take full advantage of the sun's energy before they are shaded by the leaves of the trees above them.

DEP citizens' bulletin

State of Connecticut
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